

County of Los Angeles CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICE

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August 11, 2014

To:

Supervisor Don Knabe, Chairman

Supervisor Gloria Molina

Supervisor Mark Ridley-Thomas Supervisor Zev Yaroslavsky

Supervisor Michael D. Antonovich

From:

William T Fujioka

and for Chief Executive Officer

INTERIM DIRECTOR AND INTERIM HEALTH OFFICER APPOINTMENTS

As previously announced, Dr. Jonathan E. Fielding, Public Health Director and Health Officer, will leave County Service on September 1, 2014. We have initiated a nation-wide executive search to fill this position. While the search is being conducted, and after Dr. Fielding vacates his position, I recommend appointing Cynthia A. Harding, MPH, as the Interim Director, and Jeffrey D. Gunzenhauser, MD, MPH, as the Interim Health Officer for the Department of Public Health (DPH). Ms. Harding and Dr. Gunzenhauser will assume their roles upon Dr. Fielding's departure and until a permanent Director and Health Officer have been selected.

Ms. Harding has over 30 years of experience with DPH. She currently serves as Chief Deputy Director and previously worked as Director of the Maternal, Child and Adolescent Health Programs, the Childhood Lead Poisoning Prevention Program, and the Tobacco Control Program. Ms. Harding has also worked on tuberculosis control and AIDS prevention efforts within DPH.

Ms. Harding holds a Bachelor's of Arts degree in Community Health from Brown University, a Master's of Public Health degree from UCLA, and a Certificate of Management from USC's Center of Excellence in Health Care Management.

Dr. Gunzenhauser joined DPH in September 2003 with many years of preventive medicine and public health experience. At DPH, he has served as Director of Quality Assurance, Acting Director of Community Health Services, and currently is the Medical Director and Director of the Quality Improvement Division. Dr. Gunzenhauser is a Fellow of the American College of Preventive Medicine and Member and past President of the California Academy of Preventive Medicine.

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Dr. Gunzenhauser holds a Bachelor's of Science degree from U.S. Military Academy, West Point, N.Y., a Doctor of Medicine degree from USUHS School of Medicine, and a Master's of Public Health degree from the UC Berkeley School of Public Health. He completed his Internal Medicine internship at Letterman Army Medical Center and his General Preventive Medicine Residency at Walter Reed Army Institute of Research.

I am confident that Ms. Harding and Dr. Gunzenhauser will be strong and capable leaders during this time of transition.

If you have any questions or need additional information, please let me know.

WTF:GP:hd

c: Executive Office, Board of Supervisors County Counsel Public Health

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